Weaker Section Housing Programme in Andhra Pradesh

5319. DR. Y LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to consider and advise HUDCO not to levy 1% additional risk charge for letter of comfort, in lieu of Government guarantee for implementation of Weaker Sections Housing Programme in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) for waiver of risk charge of 1% in respect of some housing and Urban Development schemes.

(c) Board of directors of HUDCO has decided to levy 1 % additional risk charge in all cases involving Letter of Comfort, in lieu of Government Guarantee.

Construction of Specially Designed Houses for Disabled

5320. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to stated

(a) whether Government have taken initiative to construct specially designed houses for the disabled moving on wheel chairs and handicapped persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) One of the aims of the National Housing & Habitat Policy 1998 is to meet the special needs of the desabled. However, housing is a State subject. The Central Government has formulated guidelines and space standard for barrier free built environment for the disabled as well as elderly persons. These guidelines have prescribed construction of a minimum of 2% of the total number of units (in case of single detached single dwelling units) to be constructed with barrier